Big Plans for Coastal Georgia

GPA Conference Fall Conference
October 3, 2019

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Bridget Lidy, AICP, City of Savannah
Cassie Branum, AICP, LEED AP, Perkins and Will
Quality Of Life
Climate Change and Resiliency
Healthy Environments and Healthy Living
Economic Development and Tourism
Connectivity and Accessibility
Housing
Vision

Savannah, an extraordinary place to live, learn and prosper.

Mission

The mission of the City of Savannah is to provide exceptional public services to residents, businesses and guests so they may experience a safe, healthy and thriving community.
People feel safe in their neighborhoods and the crime rate is low

Safe and reliable infrastructure that supports public safety, community well-being and economic vitality

Neighborhood access to quality, affordable housing, recreation facilities and programming, and blight reduction

Resilient and diverse economy, that promotes upward economic mobility and commercial corridor viability for all

Exceptional public service to the community, providing high value, quality and transparency to residents
Residents feeling safe in their neighborhoods.

Energy efficient government operations.
Canal District Master Plan

Infrastructure

Resurfacing City Streets

Sidewalks

Building Flooding

Street Flooding

City Facilities
Poverty Reduction
Commercial Corridors
Resilient Diversified Economy
Neighborhood Revitalization

Reestablish & Preserve Neighborhoods
City-Owned Properties
Mobility & Neighborhood Connectivity
Access To Recreation
Access To Quality Housing
NewZo
Why a new ordinance?
Outdated ordinance (1960)
Numerous zoning districts (70+)
The Benefits

Organizes information and less cumbersome

Provides clearer processes for applications and review procedures
• MPC and City’s roles clearly articulated
• Rezoning map amendments, text amendments and variances

Public notice requirements
• Outreach to neighborhoods
• Pre-meeting requirements for most applications

Updates use tables

Removes archaic language and revamps definitions

Updates parking standards and relates to Parking Matters recommendations

Expands options for mixed-use development
• Nearly every business and office district provide for upper-story residential

Complies with State Code
• Establishment of Historic Preservation Commission

Revamps Planned Development process
Effective Date

Effective Date: September 1, 2019

From Effective Date through February 29, 2020

Any new development submitted may be reviewed under the former ordinance or NewZO at the discretion of the developer.

Selection made at the time of application submittal and development standards of the ordinance chosen shall be applied.
Canal District Master Plan
Canal District Master Plan

The Planning Team

SAVANNAH
savannahga.gov

Perkins&Will

symbiosiscity
PEOPLE + PLACE + PLANET

The Canal District
Savannah Arena

The Arena in Context
Savannah Arena

View from Canal
Savannah Arena

View from Stiles Avenue
Savannah Arena

The Site Today
Savannah Arena
A District with an Arena
The Canal District

A Place with a Past
The Canal District

A Place with a Past
The Canal District
A Place with a Legacy
The Canal District

A Place to Connect
The Canal District
A Place with Nature
## Canal District Master Plan

### Project Timeline

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- **Listening Workshop** August 22
- **Visioning Workshop** September 14
- **Expert Summit** October 10
- **Plan Workshop** November 7-8

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*Note: The timeline includes key events and activities for each phase of the project.*
Public Workshop 1
Listening and learning from each other.

01 Community Vision
What will make the Canal District a successful change for your community?

02 The Canal District
What will make the Canal District a successful change for Savannah?

03 Connections
How can the Canal District connect you to the places you frequent and things you do?

04 Open Spaces
How can the Canal District create civic spaces that you want to use?

05 Additional Priorities
What else do you want us to know?

06 Kid’s District
What would make the Canal District a fun place?
Canal District Master Plan

OPEN SPACES FEEDBACK

On August 23, we asked about your parks and open spaces. This is what we heard from you.

Program Preferences | Community Input

399 Total Responses

Your Comments:

Themes:

01 Water and Flooding
02 Environmental Quality
03 Impact
04 Preserving History and Assets
05 Buffers and Transitions
06 Adjacencies
07 Connectivity
08 Parks and Open Space

YOUR OPEN SPACE PRINCIPLES

We've translated your priorities into principles for the Canal District Master Plan. Tell your thoughts.

The Canal District Master Plan should integrate infrastructure, historic and natural features, and water management in the design of its open spaces by:

01 Water and Flooding
Embracing water and alleviating flooding by design.

02 Environmental Quality
Remediating industrial land that will be reclaimed for future urban development.

03 Impact
Being sustainably financed and mitigating new burdens on economically sensitive communities.

04 Preserving History and Assets
Keeping the historic features that celebrate our heritage and share our stories.

05 Buffers and Transitions
Using natural buffers to transition between residential and industrial uses.

06 Adjacencies
Clustering active uses near the arena and everyday services near the existing neighborhoods.

07 Connectivity
Connecting all parks and destinations in the city through multi-use trails and walkable, bike-friendly streets.

08 Parks and Open Space
Embracing the natural features of the site to create recreational uses for everyone.
# Canal District Master Plan

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**Timeline**

- **August**
  - Phase 1 Listening and Learning
  - Listening Workshop August 22

- **September**
  - Phase 2 Vision and Plan Development
  - Visioning Workshop September 14

- **October**
  - Phase 2 Vision and Plan Development
  - Expert Summit October 10

- **November**
  - Phase 3 Plan Finalization and Documentation
  - Plan Workshop November 7-8

- **December**
  - Phase 3 Plan Finalization and Documentation